

STATE OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

In the Matter of  
Rebecca Parkhurst, LAMFT  
License No. 1335

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR  
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between Rebecca Parkhurst ("Licensee") and the Minnesota Board of Marriage and Family Therapy ("Board") as follows:

1. During all times herein, Licensee has been and now is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board from which she held a license to practice marriage and family therapy in the State of Minnesota.

2. Licensee is represented by Gregory P. Bulinski, BASSFORD REMELE, A Professional Association, 33 South Sixth Street, Suite 3800, Minneapolis, MN 55402-3707. The Board is represented by Nathan Hart, Assistant Attorney General, 1400 Bremer Tower, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101.

FACTS

3. For purposes of this Stipulation, the Board may consider the following facts as true:

a. Licensee was licensed by the Board to practice marriage and family therapy on March 22, 2004.

b. Licensee worked as family care specialist at a community-based program ("Program"), funded by Hennepin County, where she provided outreach services to children and families in homeless shelters in Minneapolis, MN, including a recreational children's group, walk-in counseling and follow-up supportive services.

- c. On August 22, 2005, Client No. 1, a 12 year old boy, was invited by Licensee to participate in the recreational children's group offered one afternoon a week at the shelter. With his mother's permission, Client No. 1 participated in the children's group for several weeks while residing at the shelter. After Client No. 1 moved out of the shelter the family voluntarily agreed to participate with Licensee and Program for in-home supportive services from October 2005 until December 2006.
- d. Prior to the termination of supportive services with the family, Licensee engaged in a personal and sexual relationship with Client No. 1's mother.
- e. Licensee engaged in a dual relationship with Client No. 1 and Client No. 1's mother, which impaired Licensee's professional judgment as follows:
- 1) Licensee bought the family food and paid their rent;
  - 2) Licensee paid for a rental storage space for the family's furniture and personal belongings.
- f. Licensee voluntarily resigned from family care specialist position at Program in May 2007.
- g. Licensee voluntarily suspended private practice counseling in June 2007, making all necessary referrals.
- h. Licensee subsequently terminated rental of office space and telephone service for private practice in June 2008.
- i. Licensee voluntarily self-reported to the Board in writing in June 2007.
- j. Licensee has not engaged in counseling activities since June 2007.



k. Licensee's license with the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy expired on January 31, 2009 and Licensee has not sought, nor does she intend to seek, future renewal of a license with the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy in Minnesota or any other state.

#### **REGULATIONS**

4. The Board views Licensee's practices as described in Paragraph 3 above to be violation of Statutes and Rules enforced by the Board. Licensee agrees that the conduct cited above constitutes a reasonable basis in law and fact to justify disciplinary action under Minn. Stat. § 148b.37, subd. 1(3) (violation of a statute or rule the Board is authorized to enforce) and Minn. R. 5300.0350, subps. 4.S. (unprofessional conduct), 5.B. (dual relationships), 5.E. (sexual contact or physical intimacies with a client or former client after two years of termination of services), 5.G. (exploitation of the professional relationship with a client for licensee's emotional, sexual advantage or benefit), and 5.J. (impaired objectivity).

#### **REMEDY**

5. Upon this Stipulation and all of the files, records and proceedings herein, and without further notice or hearing herein, Licensee does hereby consent that until further order of the Board, made after notice and hearing upon application by Licensee, or upon the Board's own motion, the Board may make and enter an order as follows:

a. Licensee shall voluntarily surrender her license to practice marriage and family therapy in the State of Minnesota.

b. Upon Licensee's surrender of her license to practice marriage and family therapy in Minnesota, the Board agrees to close its files in this matter.

c. Should Licensee seek re-licensure in Minnesota with the Board, it may re-open its investigation.

6. Licensee is aware that this Stipulation and Order will be disseminated. Upon request, the Board may share its investigative data with the requesting licensing authority.

7. Within ten (10) days of signing the Stipulation to this Order, licensee shall provide the Board with a list of all other states in which Licensee is licensed or has applied for licensure, and the addresses and telephone numbers of Licensee's residences. Within seven (7) days of any change, Licensee shall provide the Board with any new address and telephone information. The information shall be sent to Kay Ek, Minnesota Board of Family Therapy, University Park Plaza, 2829 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3246.

8. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this settlement, this Stipulation is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto except that Licensee agrees that should the Board reject the Stipulation and if this case proceeds to hearing, Licensee will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Stipulation or any records relating hereto.

9. Licensee waives any further hearings on this matter before the Board to which Licensee may be entitled by Minnesota or United States constitutions, statutes, or rules and agrees that the order should be entered pursuant to the Stipulation shall be the final order herein.

10. Licensee hereby acknowledges that she has read and understands this Stipulation and has voluntarily entered into the Stipulation without threat or promise by the Board or any of its members, employees, or agents. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms

of this Stipulation.

Dated: October 21, 2009

Rebecca A. Parkhurst  
Rebecca Parkhurst, LAMFT, Licensee

Dated: Feb. 19, 2010

Kay Ek  
Kay Ek, Board of Marriage and Family  
Therapy Complaint Panel

Dated: Feb. 19, 2010

Mark A. Flaten  
Mark Flaten, MA, LMFT

#### ORDER

Upon consideration of this Stipulation and all the files, records, and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the terms of this Stipulation are adopted and  
implemented by the Board this 19 day of February, 2010 *rev*

MINNESOTA BOARD OF MARRIAGE  
AND FAMILY THERAPY

By: Shirley C. Sellen